Reserves in Million Tonnes

District	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Chandrapur	—	202.81	7.55
Nagpur	54.63	73.93	150.52
Yewatmal	—	—	29.00
TOTAL:	54.63	276.74	187.07

(c) and (d) The expenditure incurred by GSI during the past three years and proposed in the current year is given below:—

Year	Investigation	Drilling
1997-98	Rs. 8.84 lakhs	Rs. 130.40 lakhs
1998-99	Rs.11.68 lakhs	Rs.111.70 lakhs
1999-2000	Rs.13.72 lakhs	Rs.156.10 lakhs
2000.2001	Rs.15.09 lakhs	Rs.171.09 lakhs

Tentative proposed expenditure in respect of GSI for the next five years on prospecting and survey is Rs. 75.45 lakhs and on exploratory drilling is Rs. 855.55.45 lakhs in Maharashtra.

The expenditure incurred by MECL during the last three years (97-98, 98-99 and 99-2000) on exploration in Maharashtra is Rs. 2.61 crores, Rs. 5.558 crores and Rs. 2.64 crores, respectively. The proposed expenditure for 2000-20001 and 2001-2002 for the tentative work allocation of 15000 meters only is Rs. 210 crores and Rs. 1.12 crores, respectively.

The Government of India, Department of Mines have accorded permission of the grant of prospecting licence (PL) for aerial prospecting in the districts of Nagpur, Bhandara and Gadchiroli in Maharashtra for gold, copper, lead, zinc, molybednum, nickel and platinum in favour of M/s Geomysore Services (India) Pvt. Ltd. over an area of 3490.00 sq.kms. for a period of 3 years. As per the information furnished by the State Government of Maharashtra the company had informed the State Government to incur an expenditure of Rs. 13.5 crores over a period of 5 years i.e. Rs. 2.7 crores per year.

Nickel Plant in Orissa

5569. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Ministerof MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined in the past, the proposal to set up a Nickel plant in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (DR.) SHRIMATI RITA VERMA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. At present there is no proposal to set up a Nickel extraction plant in Orissa. However, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has developed a process to extract Nickel metal from Chromite overburden accumulated as waste after extraction of Chromite ore. In Orissa, a Pilot Plant with the capacity to treat up to 10 tonnes of chrome overburden per day is being set up at the Regional Research Laboratory at Bhubaneswar at a capital cost of Rs. 10 crore following signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Hindustan Zinc Limited and CSIR. This pilot plant has recently been commissioned. The techno-economic viability of Nickel extraction from the Committee overburden waste can be assessed after operation of the Pilot Plant for two years when sufficient data has been generated.

World Bank Loan for Coal Projects

5570. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loan/aid given by World Bank to various coal companies during the last three years;

(b) the various projects for which these coal companies have availed the World Bank loan;

(c) to what extent the loan has been utilized so far; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (DR.(SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) The total amount of loan sanctioned by the World Bank with co-financing from Japan Bank for International Co-operation (JBIC) for Coal Sector Rehabilitation Project (CSRP) to Coal India Limited is US $ 1030 million during the last three years.

(b) Coal Sector Rehabilitation Project (CSRP) covers 24 sub-projects under 5 subsidiaries of Coal India Limited (CIL) as shown in the Statement. *(See* below)

(c) and (d) The total utilization of the World Bank/JBIC loan for Coal Sector Rehabilitation Project (CSRP) till 31.03.2000 is equivalent of US$ 421.85 million. The year-wise details of utilization of the loan are as under:

(Amount in US$ million)

1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	Total
Nil	87.71	334.14	421.85